TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

A3375-2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 14, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the holiday week ended September 9 totaled 305,544, down 1.3 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 13.2 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 1.6 percent in the West but down 3.8 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of metallic ores were up 1,975 cars (10.8 percent). Coal loadings were up 1,017 cars (0.9 percent). Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were down 1,280 cars (8.0 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 36 weeks of 1989 totaled 11,940,763, down 0.9 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 99,025 trailers and/or containers for the week ended September 9, down 1.8 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 36 weeks of 1989 was 4,042,319 trailers and/or containers, 3.1 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended September 9 totaled 17.4 billion, 1.1 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 36 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 686.4 billion ton-miles, up 0.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 9, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 9, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	21,384	23,798	-10.1 %	26,671	-19.8 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	888	991	-10.4	1,040	-14.6
Metallic Ores	20,246	18,271	10.8	21,317	-5.0
Coal	119,748	118,731	.9	133,827	-10.5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	14,752	14,874	-.8	18,123	-18.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,800	9,408	-6.5	10,302	-14.6
Grain Mill Products	8,830	9,202	-4.0	10,280	-14.1
Food & Kindred Products	7,712	7,584	1.7	9,075	-15.0
Primary Forest Products	8,035	8,371	-4.0	9,447	-14.9
Lumber & Wood Products	5,016	5,501	-8.8	6,822	-26.5
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,290	10,812	-4.8	10,875	-5.4
Chemicals	24,804	23,838	4.1	29,313	-15.4
Petroleum Products	4,851	4,431	9.5	5,244	-7.5
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,637	9,704	-.7	10,982	-12.2
Coke	5,449	5,504	-1.0	5,385	1.2
Metals & Products	7,879	8,684	-9.3	10,709	-26.4
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	14,772	16,052	-8.0	17,400	-15.1
Waste & Scrap Materials	6,595	7,565	-12.8	8,311	-20.6
All Other Carloads	5,856	6,275	-6.7	7,025	-16.6
Total	305,544	309,596	-1.3 %	352,148	-13.2 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 9, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 36 WEEKS ENDING SEPTEMBER 9, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	305,544	309,596	-1.3 %	11,940,763	12,047,011	-.9 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	56,978	58,838	-3.2	2,340,269	2,367,972	-1.2
Containers	42,047	42,019	.1	1,702,050	1,553,341	9.6
Total	99,025	100,857	-1.8	4,042,319	3,921,313	3.1
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	17.4	17.6	-1.1 %	686.4 r	685.9	.1 %

#

r Cumulative ton-mile estimate revised to reflect actual ton-miles reported in 2nd Quarter 1989